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Ex-spy to lecture on corruption Tuesday at DSC

Controversial author and ex-spy Peter James will deliver a slide-illustrated lecture Tuesday at Dakota State College.

Sponsored by the DSC Student Activities Board, James will talk on the subject, "How You Can Expose Corruption." The program shows how individuals and communities can fight corruption on local, county, state and federal levels.

The program begins at 8 p.m. in room 100 of East Hall. The cost is \$1 except for DSC students with identification cards.

James bases part of his presentations on personal experiences he has had with Russian spies, the CIA and Air Force Intelligence work during the past two decades.

In more recent years, he has traveled 100,000 miles per year talking to audiences.

Madrid, Belgrade, Venice, Paris, Mar del Plata, Buenos Aires, Rome, Konstanz, Dubrovnik, Marseilles and Brussels, using scientific conferences as excuses to meet frequently with Russian scientists, engineers and espionage agents.

James was first approached by the CIA in 1965, when he was 25. His intelligence reports for the CIA received high marks, and similarly, an 800-page secret intelligence assessment he authorized for Air Force Intelligence was requested by the executive office of the president.

James has met hundreds of high-level Russian scientists and spies, including the "Father of the Sputnik" (Academician Leonid Sedov) and mastermind of the Christine Keeler sex scandal (KGB agent Nikolai Belousov). His secret 800-page intelligence assessment was the first to conclude that the Russians had the capability to reload their ICBM launch silos, and it was the first document to detail the existence of a Russian space shuttle program.

James was fired in 1971 by Pratt & Whitney after he made known his intentions to expose corruption he had personally witnessed within the military-industrial complex. His books, "Soviet Conquest From Space" and "The Air Force Mafia," were both selections of the Conservative Book Club in 1974 and 1975, yet, ironically, they were used widely by the liberal establishment. Both books covered the issues of national security versus individual rights.

During the mid-1970s, James' revelations led to House and Senate inquiries and attracted the attention of the national news media, including front-page coverage by the Washington Post, which first broke his story nationally. Sen. William Proxmire became personally involved in the James affair and his efforts eventually led to the curtailment of some questionable intelligence operations by order of the defense secretary.

James also cooperated with Sen. Sam Ervin's Watergate Committee, Sen. Frank Church's Select Committee on Intelligence, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and numerous senators and congressmen in an attempt to expose and make public questionable government operations.

Since the Watergate era, James has made use of his reputation as a published author, ex-spy, muckraker, world traveler and speaker to develop a worldwide network of contacts far greater than when he was globehopping with Russian spies and reporting to the CIA.

His reputation for speaking with truth on current issues has led to first-hand research both inside and outside the U.S.

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